

## CFP: Africa Research Group (ARG) 6<sup>th</sup> International Conference

### Dates: 4-6 September 2019

Hosts: Africa Research Group (ARG), China Research Group (CRG), Nottingham University Business School China (NUBS China), Institute of Asia and Pacific Studies (IAPS), Nottingham Centre for Globalisation and Economic Policy (GEP)

Venue: UNNC, Ningbo, China (specific venue tbc)

#### Key dates:

First announcement of call for papers: 14 April 2018

Deadline for all submissions: 20 February 2019

Announcement of results: 31 March 2019

Registration deadline: 31 May 2019

Announcement of Conference Programme: 30 June 2019

Conference dates: 4-6 September 2019

#### Conference theme:

Africa-China business and investment relations: casting new light on the phenomenon

#### Conference overview

With the increasing Africa-China engagement particularly in light of China's new 'Belt and Road' policy, this conference seeks papers that contribute to our understanding of the nature of this engagement with regard to, inter alia, the economic, investment/industrial, social-cultural and trade/business dimensions. This engagement has important implications for Africa's industrial-economic rejuvenation, and as Chinese investments become significant players in what has come to be viewed as Africa's renaissance, we see an important opportunity to debate this phenomenon, to identify appropriate theoretical lenses for an emergent and hence under-researched phenomenon, and to shed light on how mutually-beneficial relations might be created amongst the various stakeholders, including academics, practitioners and policy-makers, Chinese managers and African employees, and so forth. Papers may draw from a range of theoretical and methodological perspectives. We welcome papers that shed new light on, but are not limited to:

- the drivers of China's interest in Africa and Africa's resources
- the Asian firm in Africa/ the African firm in Asia
- human resource issues, cultural diversity and managerial expertise
- implications of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) for Africa
- Geopolitics, aid, and the role of soft power
- Chinese migration into Africa & role of the Chinese diaspora in Africa
- China's involvement in African agribusiness
- the role of initiatives such as the Forum of China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC)
- indigenous knowledge, innovation and entrepreneurialism
- corporate governance, CSR and business ethics
- China-Africa tourism
- Industry 4.0 and Lean
- Made in China 2025
- big data and supply chain management

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### **Accommodation (tbc)**

### **Registration fee (tbc)**

The conference fee will include admission to all academic sessions, conference information pack, coffee breaks and lunches, Welcome Reception on Wednesday 4 September and Conference Dinner on Thursday 5 September.

### **Submission guidelines**

Times New Roman 12pt, single spacing

Full papers no longer than 30 pages; extended abstracts between 2 and 8 pages

No identifying information (author's names, email addresses, institutions)

Include a separate one page document with author details

Harvard style referencing

No changes in the paper title, abstract, authorship, etc after the submission deadline

### **Publication**

Previous ARG conferences produced a special issue of *the International Journal of Human Resource Management* (2012), *Personnel Review* (2015), and a book, *Effective people Management in Africa*, Palgrave Macmillan (2013). We are exploring the opportunity of a special issue.

**Submissions procedure:**

Submissions from Asia and the Far East: [nana.kufuor@nottingham.edu.cn](mailto:nana.kufuor@nottingham.edu.cn)

Submissions from Africa: [maingi.shem@ku.ac.ke](mailto:maingi.shem@ku.ac.ke)

Submissions from Europe and the Americas: [ken.kamoche@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:ken.kamoche@nottingham.ac.uk)

For all queries, please contact either Professor Ken Kamoche or Dr Saileshsingh Gunessee

Africa Research Group:

<http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/business/businesscentres/africarg/index.aspx>

Further details will be provided in due course.

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